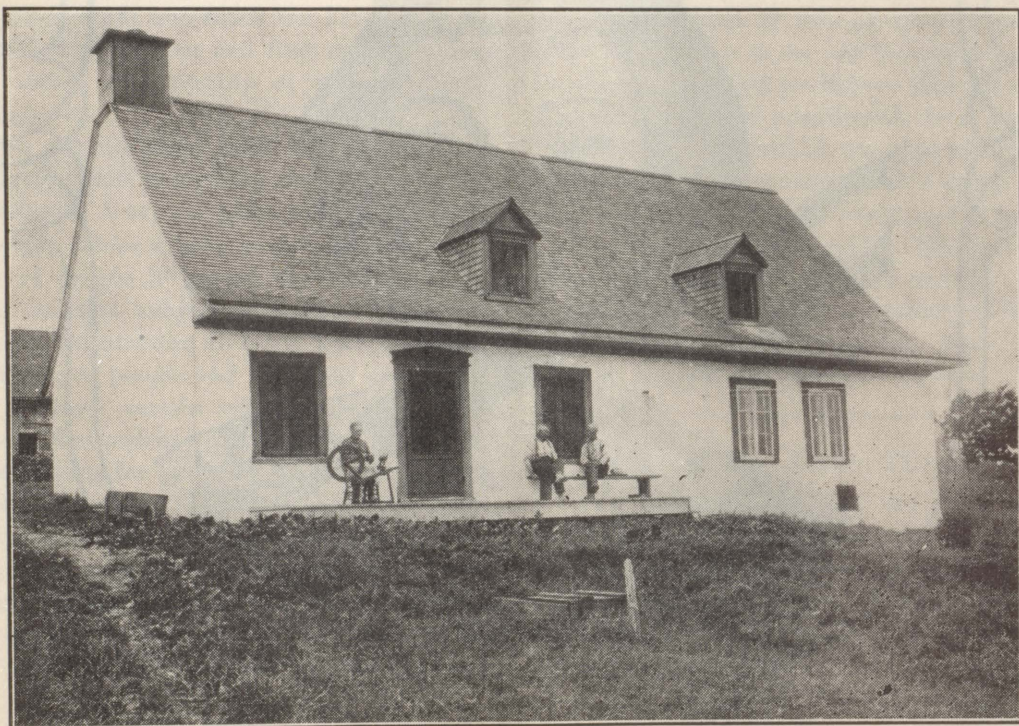


MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



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Farm · Home · School



THE MACDONALD LASSIE



Every Member Can Be a Leader

One of the most interesting questions in the history of civilization is: "Why does one group wax fat, while one that seems similar may wilt and die?" If we could get a clear answer to this question, we could iron out many of the problems of mankind.

Unfortunately, it's a very complicated problem. To start with, no two people are just alike — with the possible exception of some identical twins — and the same situation will bring many different reactions. Since all human movements are developed by human beings, this diversity of reaction is one that can't be skirted. It's there. It must be faced.

Then, too, situations differ from place to place and from time to time. Each one holds the key to its own solution — but often no one can find that key. And even if it is found, the diversity of human reaction must be considered.

Some people put all their faith in the leadership principle, believing that everything depends on a certain person being at a certain place at a certain time. But that principle denies a basic premise of democracy — the ability of people to govern themselves.

Fortunately, as this subject is studied more and more, a body of information is being built up which shows that, diverse as people and situations are, certain actions tend to have certain results. This makes it possible to move forward in a quicker and more direct route, without waiting for pre-ordained leaders to show the way. With an understanding of these principles, anyone can aspire to leadership of some degree.

Wondering how valid these principles might be in relation to rural groups in Quebec, we undertook a survey based on the farm forums in the province. We didn't select any particular forums — the question-

naires went to all of them, and over half the groups returned them. They were then classified and analyzed as objectively as possible, to find out just what was happening in the forums, and why.

The result is a mass of useful information on what is actually taking place, and the reasons associated with it. This information agrees very closely in the main with the general principles that have been laid down, and it also sheds light on some things that had not been investigated before, to our knowledge.

Although based on farm forums, much of this information should be applicable to many other groups, both rural and urban. We believe that anyone who will digest the findings of this survey and make an honest effort to put them to use will become a useful leader in his community. And we believe that the community as a whole will benefit considerably from such leadership.

One more comment on this type of leadership — it isn't exclusive. Every member of a group may take the lead in some aspect of its work; and if he does a good job he will not be indispensable. Through working with him others will have learned enough to take over without any serious break in continuity. When we have reached that stage of progress, there will be little cause to fear for the future of Canada.

Our Cover Picture

Those of our readers who are interested in history may recognize the farmhouse used as a cover illustration this month. In this house at Boischatel, a few miles downstream from Quebec, General Wolfe made his headquarters during the summer of 1759. Photo by courtesy of the C.N.R.

Any article in the *Journal* may be reprinted if the source and the author are credited.

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Forum broadcast on the open futures market during the CFA convention in Calgary.

A Tale of Two Forums

All the farm forums in Canada receive the same Farm Forum Guide and listen to the same national broadcast. But still many differences appear — differences that mark the progress of each individual group. These differences are illustrated by the stories of the two groups described here.

SANDHURST Farm Forum is thriving. In fact, it's almost doubled its membership in the last three years, when many rural groups have found it hard to keep going. People turn out well for the meetings, and the discussions are constantly getting better; more people are really getting into them, and they're going deeper. Yet everyone gets home early after meetings.

"And our forum doesn't stop functioning between meetings or during the summer," the Sandhurst secretary brags. "We have several short term projects under way — painting mail boxes, helping to promote a dental clinic, and forming a junior calf club. And when our members aren't busy on these projects we're working on our district council's home beautification contest, or signing up new members for the health service co-operative, or fixing up our community hall."

Through stories in the local paper, both members and the public are regularly reminded of what this forum is doing. And the group's public relations and finances are both improved by sponsoring occasional dances, film showings or socials open to the public — functions which, in their turn, are duly reported to press and radio.

Let's take a look at the Sandhurst forum. It's just about half men and half women. Most of the members who have joined in the last few years are younger people,

BOTTOMLEY is another forum organized about the same time as Sandhurst — but it's gone on the skids; in fact, it's practically dead. Apparently, if it hadn't been for the dogged determination of a couple of members there wouldn't be any forum left. As it is, some of the former members have quit coming out, and nobody else seems interested in joining.

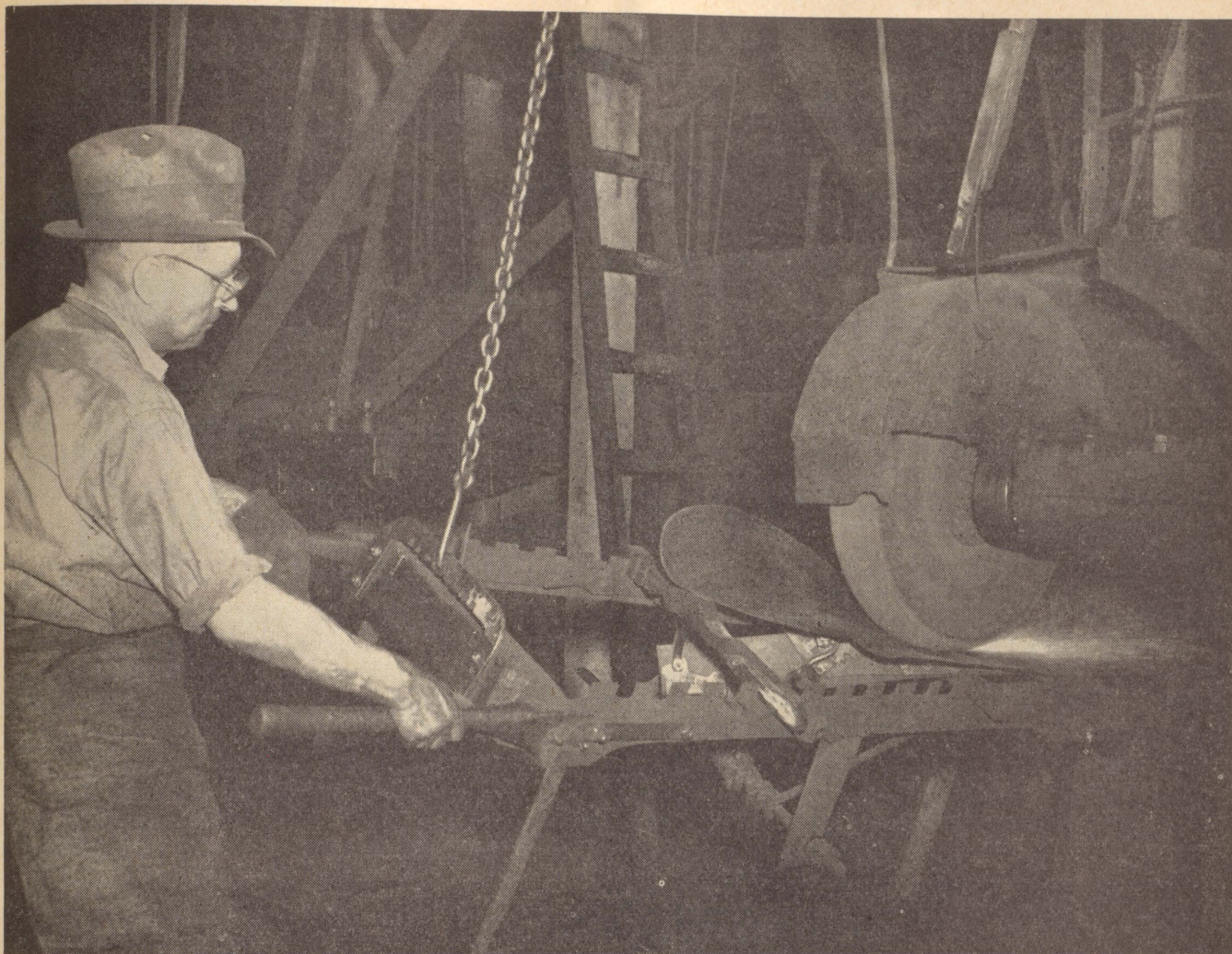
"I don't know why people aren't interested," says the Bottomley secretary. "We always have a keen discussion, with a good many friendly arguments. In fact, we can't get the discussion cut off, so we have no time for recreation — we're too late getting home as it is."

Bottomley hasn't much time for projects, either. But occasionally it combines recreation and a sort of project, by putting on a card party to raise its share of the district allotment. As for publicity, the secretary stopped preparing reports for the local paper, because they weren't always used in full.

This forum has few women members, and there are no young people. Apart from the drop in membership, everyone seems pretty well satisfied with the forum. There's been no need, they say, to send people to short courses or to pick up ideas from outside sources. They say they have all the ideas they need — if they could just get enough members to do something. But they claim

(continued on page 4)

(continued on page 4)



WHEN CRAFTSMANSHIP COUNTS

Despite all advances in manufacturing techniques and the ever-increasing application of science to the production of farm equipment, the human element is still a big factor in the quality of the final product. For example, no mechanical substitute has yet been devised for the experience and "know-how" required for a first class job of polishing plow shares and moldboards. At Cockshutt's, where quality is a first consideration, master craftsmanship continues to play its important part in making Cockshutt implements "the finest that money can buy".

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PARTNERS OF THE CANADIAN FARMER FOR 112 YEARS

Sandhurst (cont'd)

so that the group is quite well balanced between young and old members. They bring their kids along, and the women take turns in looking after them.

As the forum is so large it's broken up into small groups for discussion, and everyone has a chance to have his say. But when the time allowed for discussion has elapsed, the forum moves right on to recreation, which may include games, cards, dancing or group singing — never all of these, never just one, but always two or three of them. After an hour the recreation is cut off, before anyone is tired. Then there's just time for lunch before leaving for home.

Improved A Lot

This group has improved a lot in the last three years. Why? Well, let's let the members of Sandhurst forum answer that one. They believe it's not all due to any one cause, but to several things.

"Some of our members have attended short courses where they got useful information on what forums could do, and practical training in organization, recreation and publicity," says the secretary.

The bulk of the membership has also gained in experience during these years. They've noted what other groups were doing — from the Green Leaf, the Farm Forum Guide, magazines and newspapers — and have put some of these ideas to work. They've gleaned other ideas at rallies and from books borrowed from the Information Centre at Macdonald College.

Some of the members have also served on the district council or on committees. This group is in an active county, where a great deal of effort has been put into organizing co-operative health services and setting up a county-wide publicity organization for the forums. The district council has also sponsored short courses and organized field day trips.

So some of the Sandhurst forum members have gained experience in this county work, and the members generally have found the county projects valuable talking-points for gaining new members. Another useful talking-point has been the provincial scheme under which forum members can get car insurance at a 25% discount.

What Practical Value Have Short Courses?

An interesting point arising out of the survey is that short courses were rated so high by the increase groups. What is there in these courses that can make them of practical value to forums?

In the first place there are discussions on community programs, in which everyone takes part. Students are able to form a broader, clearer picture of the place of their forums in their communities, and of the things their forums might do — because other students report that their forums are doing them. They have the opportunity to participate in well-organized discussions, and to see competent leaders at work. Some of them have a chance to

Bottomley (cont'd)

that the young people in the district just aren't interested in forums — and then, of course, most of the young married couples have small children and can't get away.

As it happens, Bottomley is in the same county as Sandhurst. But none of the Bottomley members has taken much interest in the county projects. Some of them joined the health service co-operative when it was first formed, and they remember it when they pay their dues or go to the hospital. The secretary has insured his car under the forum scheme, but he hasn't mentioned it to anyone else — he has so many things to think of. He doesn't bother much about reports to the Provincial Office, either — can't see what good they are, anyway.

After all, he says, the Bottomley people enjoy getting together and having a friendly argument once a week during the winter. Maybe it does get a little heated occasionally, and then another couple drops out — but they weren't very strong members, anyway.

As for projects, he says, there's no reason for getting involved in a lot of things they haven't the time to do. That's the way the Bottomley people figure it. And they can't see how the people in the other forums can get any work done at home when they're involved in all the activities reported in the Weekly Bugle.

"Maybe if we had a few young people with time on their hands we could do some of these things, too," they agree. "But the young people around here just aren't interested in forums." Then they turn back to the friendly argument; and by the time they get disentangled it's after midnight, and there's no time left for recreation.

There's just one catch; a young fellow from the Bottomley district let it out one day in casual conversation. He said he belonged to the Sandhurst forum. Oh yes, it was a lot farther to go; but three other couples from Bottomley joined Sandhurst, too.

"We tried the Bottomley forum," he said, "but we couldn't stand the constant dogfight — and that's all it had to offer. The chairman and the secretary run everything — they have from the beginning, and they don't want any help. There are other things, too," he continued, "but you can figure them out for yourself."

gain experience in leading groups.

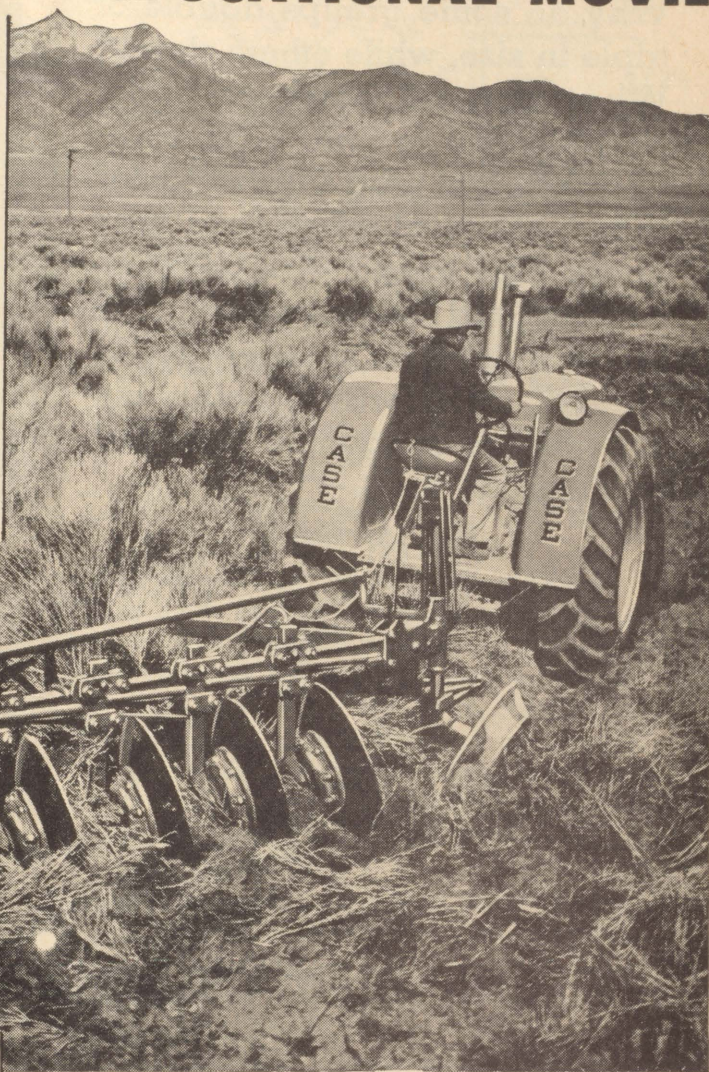
They also have a chance to take part in the actual organization and administration of the program, as officers or committee members. And through a summary at the end of the course, they are able to compare their ideas on it, in all its aspects, with those of other students.

Sessions in recreation, publicity and projector operation give students a chance to develop skills that are vital to the development of live programs. And through their contacts with other students they pick up ideas and information that may be useful when they go back home.

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CASE

What Makes a Group Good?

Why do some groups double or triple in size, while others shrink? What can be done to make people want to join a group — and then feel glad they did join? What practical steps can any group take to increase its membership and effectiveness? This report, based on a survey of 64 Quebec farm forums, points out some of the things that have led to success.

by J. S. Cram

THE Sandhurst and Bottomley groups described in "A Tale of Two Forums" don't exist at all; and yet the story is based on fact. That may sound a bit confused. But the point is that Sandhurst and Bottomley typify some real Quebec groups.

This comparison has not been made out of thin air, or based on personal opinion. It comes from replies to a questionnaire sent out to all 122 of the registered Quebec forums, and returned by 57% of them — an excellent return.

This questionnaire asked what changes had occurred during the last four years in size of membership, type of membership, procedure at meetings, nature of programs, projects, recreation and publicity. It also asked what were the reasons for these changes, and if they could be traced to outside sources; and it left room for other comments.

Taken all together, the answers throw a great deal of light on the forum movement in Quebec. They indicate quite clearly some of the reasons why groups thrive or die, why a forum has a better chance in one district than in another, and even what can be done to revive a badly wilted group.

Since these questionnaires were answered by the forum secretaries the information may not actually represent what a forum has done in the last four years, but what the secretary says has happened. Nevertheless, the pattern clearly shows that a good program usually brings a good report, and a poor program brings a poor report. So it seems quite reasonable to use these reports as a basis for comparing forums.

In analyzing the reports, they were first broken down into three groups — the 22% that dropped in membership during the last four years, which are called "decrease" groups; the 34% that held their own, called "even"



Young people and women take an active part in most thriving groups.

groups; and the 44% that grew in membership, called "increase" groups.

Cross-Section Membership

A close connection is shown between a forum's type of membership and its success in holding or gaining members. The decrease groups tend to have mostly older members, and more men than women, while the increase groups have fairly even numbers of young and old, and of men and women, all taking an active part. The decrease groups tend to have lost mostly young members — but a sixth of them report losing older ones, too. The more successful groups have gained a lot of young members, and a few older people, without losing many of either.

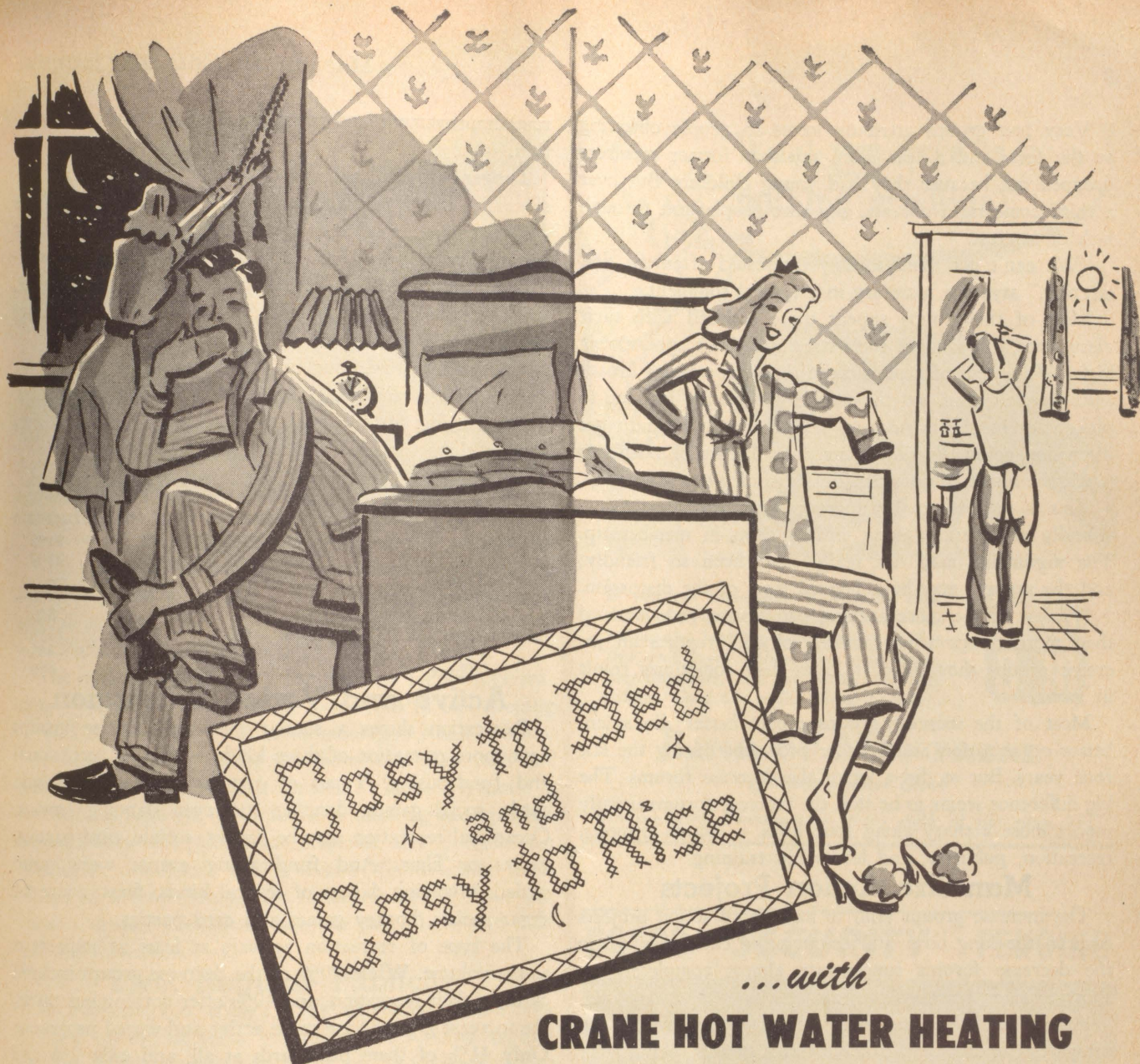
Half the down-grade forums report decreases of from 25% to almost total disappearance. The biggest single cause for drop in membership was a combination of ill health, death and moving — things beyond the forums' control, to which all are subject to some extent, but which the more successful groups offset by recruiting new members.

What the Forums Reported Type of Membership Now

	Decrease	Even	Increase
Non-Farm	17%	—	—
Young and Old Even	17%	33%	32%
Mostly Older	17%	13%	16%
Mostly Young	8%	—	20%
Men and Women Even	25%	13%	48%

Changes in Type of Membership

	Decrease	Even	Increase
More Young	—	40%	32%
Fewer Young	42%	—	4%
More Old	8%	—	4%
Fewer Old	17%	20%	—



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Very few groups attribute losses to people objecting to the fees; and a few more say that former members dropped out because they had young children. But over a third come right out and say that people quit through lack of interest.

"We can't get them to stay interested after the first meeting," says one secretary in a typical comment.

Most of the groups appear quite satisfied with their discussions, but some of their standards don't appear very high. While several groups claim that this season's broadcasts were the best yet, the weaker groups are inclined to pick holes in the broadcasts, saying it was hard to get discussion going. Possibly their poor discussion wasn't so much the result of poor broadcasts as of weak leadership.

This is pointed up by a group that reported "a few friendly arguments" along with a drop in membership. The arguments may not really have been so friendly; and the arguers may have hogged most of the discussion.

"A few of the more arguing people dropped out, and then more co-operative families joined," reports an increase group, showing that losses may sometimes result in gains.

Most of the increase groups report better discussion, better organization and broader programs during the last four years. But so did a lot of the decrease forums. The big difference seems to be that the increase forums usually report more activity along four lines — action projects, recreation, publicity, and leadership training.

Man-Size Action Projects

The increase groups tend to have more action projects each in the long term and co-operative categories, while the decrease forums concentrate almost completely on short term or one-shot projects.

Among the short term jobs reported are warble fly campaigns, sponsorship of Blue Cross groups, painting of mail boxes, promotion of dental clinics, aid to families who have suffered in fires or winds and campaigns for

road improvement and telephone and electricity installation.

Longer projects, which require activity over a considerably longer period, and often continuous, include garden competitions, complete renovation of a church or community hall, purchase of a film projector, active canvassing for car insurance under the provincial scheme, series of talks on agricultural subjects, and public speaking lessons.

Co-operative projects include fire insurance, credit unions, active canvassing for co-operative health services, wood cutting, group purchase of lime spreaders and buying clubs for feed and fertilizer.

Types and Numbers of Projects

	Decrease	Even	Increase
Short—One	25%	5%	31%
Two	6%	14%	23%
Three	6%	—	—
Long—One	6%	9%	4%
Two	—	—	8%
Co-op.—One	6%	14%	33%
Two	—	—	4%
Three	—	—	4%

Active and Varied Recreation

Recreation shows a similar pattern. Increase groups have more recreation of three kinds — regular, occasional and fund-raising. Types of regular recreation include cards, social games, dancing and even dancing lessons. Occasional recreation may be dances, socials, card parties, games or films. And fund-raising events were quite varied, involving dances of several kinds, films, concerts, sugar socials, hockey games and card parties.

The type of recreation appears at least as important as the volume. While 90% of the decrease groups include cards in their recreation, and 40% offer nothing but cards, the increase groups have more active and varied programs. Only 41% of them play cards at all, and only 9% use cards as their sole type of recreation. The more successful forums favour a mixture of social games, dancing and singing, using two or three of these in an evening.

Types of Recreation

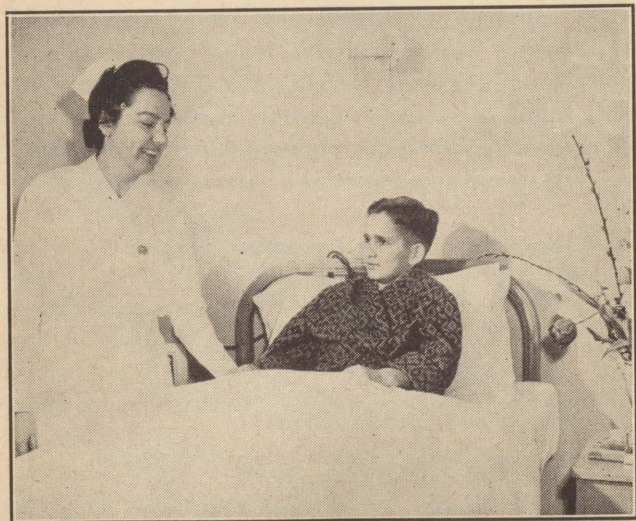
	Decrease	Even	Increase
Fund-Raising	6%	14%	19%
Occasional	33%	23%	38%
Regular Weekly	25%	38%	46%

Content of Recreation

	Decrease	Even	Increase
Singing—Combined	—	12%	23%
Alone	—	—	5%
Dancing—Combined	20%	42%	32%
Alone	—	6%	9%
Social Games—Combined	20%	42%	45%
Alone	—	6%	5%
Cards—Combined	90%	45%	41%
Alone	40%	12%	9%

Variety of Recreation

	Decrease	Even	Increase
One Kind	40%	35%	36%
Two Kinds	60%	35%	41%
Three Kinds	—	24%	23%
Four Kinds	—	6%	—



Health services and other forms of co-operation rank high among the action projects of many live forums.



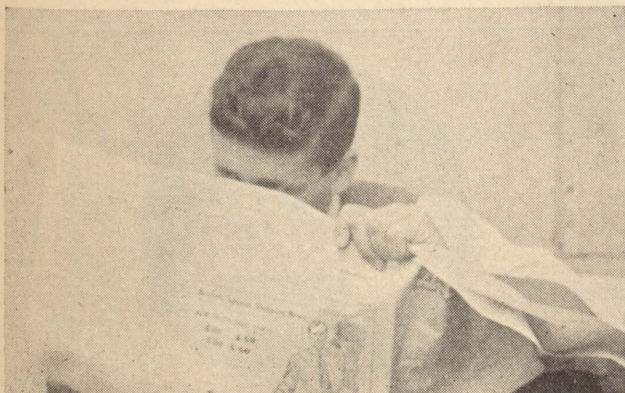
Dancing, mixed with one or two other forms of recreation, is on the weekly program of many successful groups.

"Recreation helps to attract new members, particularly the young, active people," is a thought expressed by several groups. "And it tends to hold our members," adds Suffield & Belvidere.

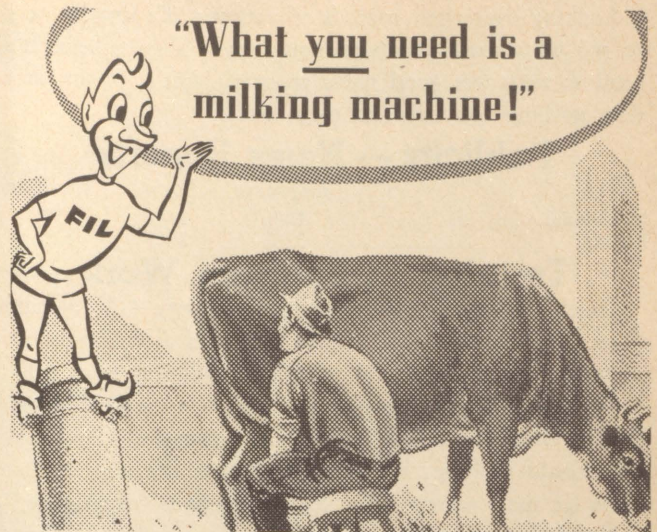
The odd forum believes it has gone too far with recreation — some including up to four types in one evening — and one reports: "Too much recreation ruins a forum. We have a lot of young members, and they rush the discussion to get to the recreation." However, quite a few forums have got around this by allotting fixed periods to discussion and recreation. This not only provides for reasonable discussion, but it averts the difficulty mentioned by several groups that report, in effect: "Our discussion usually goes on so long we don't have any time left for recreation."

Live, Regular Publicity

In publicity, too, there's a big difference. While only a third of the decrease groups report sending regular releases to newspapers, two-thirds of the increase groups say they send them faithfully. Most of the latter seem delighted with the results, saying: "We get good regular reports in our local paper," while decrease groups served by the same paper sometimes complain: "We don't think the editor likes what we're doing; he isn't very co-operative."



People enjoy reading news of their groups' activities, reported regularly to local papers by the forums' own publicists.



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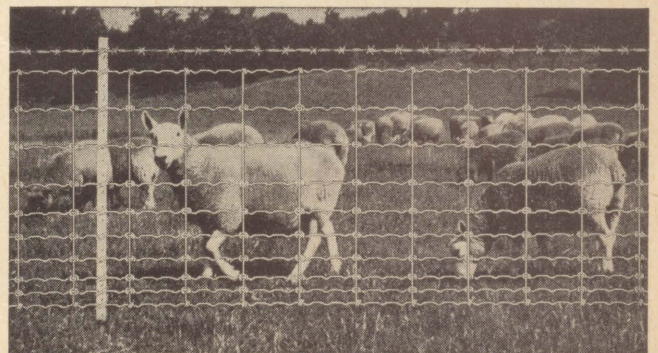


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Looking over their records of activity, it's usually easy to see why some get more news space than others. It's hard to turn out good news reports about a forum that does nothing but talk and play cards.

Publicity — News Reports

	Decrease	Even	Increase
Occasional	12%	14%	19%
Regular	33%	32%	62%

Training in Program Work

Of all the groups reporting more activity 41% ascribe it to more experience, 31% to members attending short courses, 31% to information and stimulation from publicity, and 31% to information in the Green Leaf, Farm Forum Guide or books from the Information Centre at Macdonald College. It's interesting that the only reason given for more activity in decrease groups is "experience."

No such false pride is shown by the increase groups. A third of them mention more experience as one reason for their increased activity, but apparently few of them believe that experience, by itself, is enough to take them very far. Almost half give publicity part of the credit for their speed-up, and almost as many say it was members taking short courses that gave them their boost.

"We have a more interesting program because the leaders have had more training," is the gist of several reports. "There's less time lost in discussion and our program is livelier, better planned and follows a regular schedule." Others go on to say that members who went to short courses got useful information, experience and ideas for putting new life into their groups.

A fifth of the increase groups say they picked up good ideas close to home, from neighboring groups. Others credit their gains to ideas gleaned from the Green Leaf, Forum Guide or books from the Information Centre.

Reasons for Increased Activity

	Decrease	Even	Increase
More Experience	100%	50%	35%
Short Courses Conferences	—	13%	40%
Publicity	—	—	45%
Information from:			
Green Leaf and Guide	—	13%	10%
Information Centre	—	13%	5%
Example of Other Forums	—	—	20%

Whatever total is more than 100% this is because some groups have given credit to several things.



Three-quarters of the increase groups report that their sessions are well organized, against only half the decrease groups.

Same Have Better Chance

It's quite evident that forums in some sections have a better chance than those in others. A lot depends on the activity of the district council; and then, too, if a few forums are very active, they tend to stimulate others nearby, and to give them ideas for special types of activity.

It seems quite significant that these three top districts have all had short courses or conferences of their own, have sent a lot of students to Christmas Courses at Macdonald College, and have taken special pains to have a big turn-out at Farm Day. They all have county projects and are working hard on publicity; and none of them is really low in recreation. Two have co-operative health services, which most of their forums mentioned on the questionnaire.

These reports give some reason for suspecting which districts have the strongest district councils and which have active members on the Quebec Farm Forum Council. It is noteworthy that those which have kept the same member on the provincial council for several years are almost all relatively dormant, while those that have provided several people with this experience are much stronger.



Many of the most active forums have sent members to courses for training in community program work.



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Personal Development

At the same time, it wouldn't do to think that because a forum hasn't gained in membership it has been serving no purpose. Something that can't be measured by this survey is the personal development of members. Of this the Dunham forum says:

"Interest in self-development activities is very much on the increase. Most members now taken courses at the Cowansville Community School."

Another secretary reports: "All members seem to be getting interested in community affairs," and a third comments: "Our members now like to discuss not only agriculture, but community life and world affairs. But perhaps the most human of all the comments is this one: 'The men all shave now, and the women are much happier.'" Thus forum programs, even in the hardest-hit groups, may result in improved family and community relationships.

Ways of Building Up

But certainly no forum can be happy about losing its members and not gaining others. There's no formula that can provide the whole answer — the personalities and capacities of present members are extremely important factors, as are relationships among these members. But the survey has shown a number of things that most forums can do to improve their programs:

1. See that as many members as possible take part in short courses and conferences to get training in organization, discussion, recreation and publicity.
2. Plan meetings in advance, and stick to the plans, so that discussion won't be rushed, recreation crowded out, or welcomes worn out.
3. Try introducing the odd new type of recreation, and keep on using the things that members enjoy most — not alone, but mixed with one of two other types. But special emphasis on active types of recreation.
4. Have the odd social event open to the public, to provide welcome entertainment, attract new members and help raise district allotments and funds for projects.
5. Appeal to people's pocketbooks by actively promoting the provincial car insurance scheme, district health



Active programs give useful and enjoyable experience to more people.

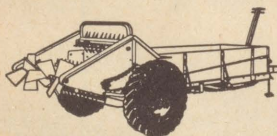
services and the other types of co-operatives and buying clubs.

6. Give members the pleasure of working together and give non-members a picture of forum activity by launching community projects with high popular appeal. But don't take on too many new ones at once, and finish everything you undertake.

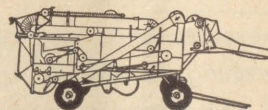
7. Put one member in charge of publicity and see that he reports regularly to the paper in which other forums are getting news space. If he misses any live events, remind him about them, and he won't be so likely to forget again.

8. See that new officers, both local and district, are elected regularly, so that a lot of people will gain experience in these posts and secure the useful outside contacts that these offices bring.

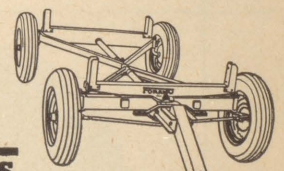
It's quite safe to predict that any forum that follows these rules will be away out in front within the next few years. It will have provided members, not only with a chance for personal development, but with real accomplishments which they can point to and say: "See this and this and this? They're the work of our forum!"



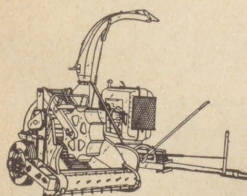
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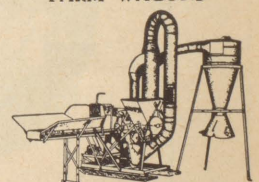
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Forums Use Many Types of Publicity

Many different methods of publicity are being used by farm forums. Most popular generally is the newspaper report, which will be read by forum members and non-members alike, and by people over quite an area. Many forums have made one member responsible for sending reports on all their activities to the local paper, and have been well pleased with the results.

Some districts now have so many forums that this system can no longer be followed — if the paper printed even a brief report from each forum there would be no space left for anything else. In Pontiac this situation has been averted by naming three district reporters. Each of these gathers news of her district and submits a report every third week. Events important to all forums take precedence, and dull, trivial items are cut out. As a result, forum news in Pontiac gets a lot of front page space in the Shawville Equity.

In Huntingdon, forum secretaries telephone their reports to their district publicity director, who uses them as a basis for a weekly story for the Gleaner.

But publicity does not begin and end with newspaper reports. There's no better way of spreading enthusiasm for the forum movement than for members to tell their friends and neighbors what their groups are doing. Putting this on a group basis, many forums have open house on Fourth Nights, when non-members are invited in and every attempt is made to show them a good time.

Brome district has started something new this season, in publishing a news sheet on forum activities in the district. It's not a propaganda blurb, but contains considerable information on forum activities that will be of real interest to members.

For special events such as rallies, most forums are now putting up colorful — easy-to-read posters. And some are using posters, too, to announce oyster suppers and other social activities open to the public.

The best publicity of all, of course, is not what a forum says, but what it does. However, by telling of what it's doing, a group can spread information on its activities to a much wider public, and draw needed support.

Information on how to do this is contained in a booklet "How to Handle Publicity," which may be secured from the Information Service, Macdonald College, P.Q., for 25¢ a copy.

Ponds For Cattle Watering

Have your cattle adequate water in their pasture? In most places in Eastern Canada a good supply can be assured by damming up a stream to make a farm pond, which can also be used for recreation.

Cattle should be fenced out of the pond, and the water piped to a drinking tank. This will help keep it clean and prevent breakdown of the dam through trampling.

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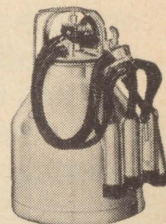
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Going Ahead With the Clock



How to avoid a lonely old age?

The family pattern of farm life is fast dissolving, and there seems to be little chance of restoring it on the old basis. The logical alternative is to work out a new pattern that will meet the present-day needs of the rural community.

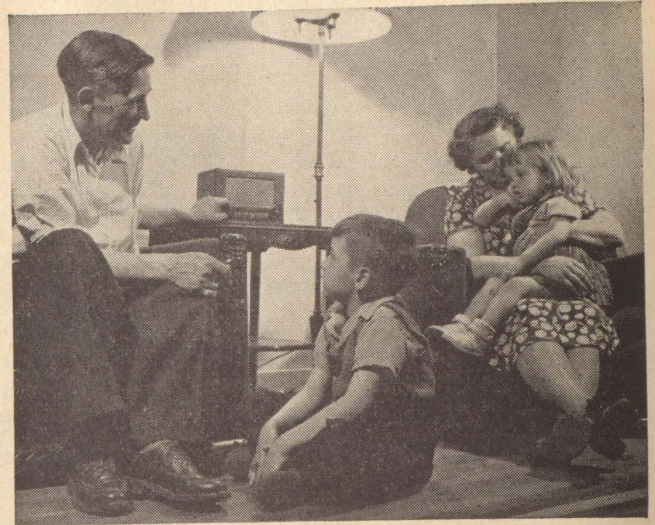
THE established patterns of rural family living have been upset by rapid changes in transportation, communication, mechanization and school centralization, reports the New York State Rural Policy Committee. And it believes a new pattern must be worked out — a pattern which will fit the changed conditions.

The purpose of the committee, which comprises 60 experienced practical farmers and homemakers, is to study the problems facing rural areas and to formulate policies that will guide individuals, organizations and agencies in making needed adjustments.

The committee found a shift from the solidarity of the traditional farm family to a dispersed family; a decline in the size of the farm family; and a change from farming which stressed family co-operation to farming as a commercial enterprise.

These changes, which have made a considerable shift in the basis of rural living, have occurred not only in New York State, but to some extent all over North America. No part of Canada has completely escaped them, and some sections have felt their impact quite heavily. We have the same problems, stemming from the same causes.

What are these causes? Some of them go back to pre-war conditions, while others arise direct from things that happened during the war, which broke up and separated many families. It brought about marriages which



Is good family living enough?

mixed family backgrounds, and introduced new problems of adjustment between the older and younger generation.

Increased employment of girls and part-time work of men in industry have contributed to the shift in family interests. The centralization of schools has tended to draw children away from home for their leisure-time interests and pursuits, while rural parents exercise less control over school affairs.

The mechanization of the farm and home has tended to place a lower economic value on children as helpers in the farm family, and to reduce the labor-sharing function of individual family members of all ages.

Finally, city values and ways of living have been brought to rural families by contact with urban newcomers in rural communities. For some time the radio, the movies, the press and the automobile have been contributing to the dispersal of family interests.

These forces, says the committee, can disrupt the rural family, pull it apart, and scatter the pieces, unless something is done to control them. The clock can't be turned back; but by facing the facts it should be possible to maintain or improve standards of living, and produce the finest rural family life ever known.

Must Be Wise Choosing

This calls for the wise use of such modern facilities as the radio, movies, electricity, automobiles, books and publications. It calls for individuals and families to make their choices of facilities and activities to support good family living. There must be wise choosing on the basis of what is best for the individual and the family.

Strong families make for strong communities, and in the strong family each member should have an opportunity for well rounded participation in meaningful activity. Satisfactions formerly supplied to individuals through family life should be taken into account in

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strengthening and unifying neighborhood and community living.

Only three decades ago, rural areas were based on face-to-face neighbor living. Today secondary, larger, decentralized communities are swiftly coming to pass. It is easy to live impersonally and in segregated classes in some rural communities of today, but this cannot achieve constructive community living. Now more than ever, help in unifying the rural community for effectively meeting new and changing conditions is needed.

The committee believes that the effects of drastic changes of the last half century, which have so vitally affected rural families and communities, must be studied carefully, and that appropriate action must be undertaken to safeguard the future of the rural family and community. To help achieve this goal the committee makes several recommendations:

1. That all organizations and families interested in rural welfare give consideration to:

- a. The effect of changes in rural living on the individual's growth and development within the family.
- b. The importance of the family approach to community activities that give persons of all ages an opportunity to take part in community affairs.
- c. The use of material, social and spiritual community resources to contribute to the best development of the individual.
- d. The use and extension of counselling by ministers, doctors, teachers and others.

2. That there be a strengthened belief in the value of co-operative enterprise and a recognition of community planning responsibility by rural leadership. Good community development must become a central objective in rural program planning.

3. That there be a practical program for unified community action. This may be accomplished through the development of community councils that stimulate community planning, guide community action, and encourage the full use of existing resources.

4. That the participation of more persons in local affairs be promoted. From one-fifth to one-third of all rural families belong to no organization. Farm laborers, families on poor land, new residents and younger families are seldom active in the work of local groups. They should be encouraged to take part.

Out of a program such as this can come a strong, integrated, attractive rural life which will make the rural community an even more desirable place. But farm people cannot do this alone; nor can villagers or non-farming rural residents accomplish it by themselves. It must be the joint, co-operative work of all these different groups.

We can't turn the clock back to "the good old days." But, by working together and making use of the very things that have brought about the changes, we can move on to better days than ever.



The new edition of the "Royal" booklet, "Farm Improvement Loans", explains how you may borrow up to \$3,000 at 5% simple interest. The loans may be used for practically any farm improvement, from fence repairs to electrification.

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Making the Most of Forage Seeds

Much costly grass and clover seed can be saved, and better stands of hay and pasture can be obtained by giving more attention to the preparation of the seed bed and depth of seeding of these crops, according to K. E. Fallis, Crops Fieldman for the Ontario Department of Agriculture. He states that the essentials for obtaining good results are a uniform distribution of seed and fertilizer, accurate control of depth of seeding, and coverage of the seed in a fine, firm, moist seed bed.

To obtain this type of seed bed, he suggests thorough cultivation of the soil to a depth sufficient to bring moist soil to the surface where the seed will be in contact with it. Liberal use of the cultipacker or roller during spring cultivation will assist in obtaining a fine, firm seed bed. The last operation before seeding should, he feels, be cultipacking.

With the seed bed ready, the actual planting should follow immediately. The nurse crop and fertilizer can be put on with the grain drill. If Brome grass is included in the mixture, it is best to mix it with the nurse crop for planting at the same time. Brome, however, must not be sown more than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep. Tests have shown that Brome planted at $\frac{1}{2}$ inch gave at least 10% better results than when it was planted an inch deep or when it was left on the surface.

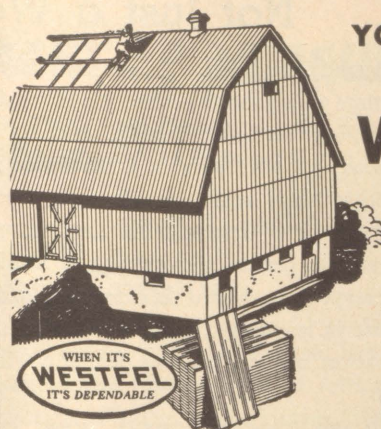
The other grasses and clovers in the mixture are best sown with the grass seed attachment behind the drill. A depth of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch is ideal.

Once the seed is in the ground, Mr. Fallis likes to use the cultipacker or roller. This assures shallow coverage of surface sown seeds, and leaves the soil in the firm condition which is ideal for rapid germination. He emphasizes that accurate control of the depth of seeding can mean the difference between success and failure of the crop. Seed lightly covered with $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of soil has a better contact with moisture and will germinate much better than if it is exposed to the air. At the same time this covering provides some protection against the seed being either blown away or washed out.

Break Up Crust

Mr. Fallis favours the cultipacker for firming the soil, pointing out that the use of the roller on heavy soils may cause crusting if the soil is moist at the time. However, if it does crust, another trip over the field with the roller will break and pulverize the crust.

If neither of these implements are available, the seed can be covered with the drag chains on the drill, and the field could be harrowed. However, when drag harrows are used, they should be light and the teeth short. New, heavy harrows used for this purpose will bury the seed too deeply and tend to leave depressions into which the seed will wash.



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Not Just a Way to Kill Time

Most forums have found that active recreation isn't just a way of passing time enjoyably — that it's of real value in building up programs and membership.

Often people are too shy to take part in a discussion; but they'll begin to forget their reticence after they've got warmed up in a game or a dance. Sometimes, too, they lose their awe of people generally regarded as local authorities on almost everything, when these people get as confused as anyone else in learning a dance, and take it all with a laugh. Recreation can do a great deal toward breaking down barriers.

Some people excel in one type of activity, some in another. That's one reason why forums are tending to mix two or three types of recreation rather than use just one. Fast dances may be too much for older people to keep up with for an hour, while social games may give them a chance to relax for a while. And singing provides a break for people who enjoy their vocal cords, and a good way to draw people together.

Using a variety of recreation also gives a better chance to try out new ideas. If only one type of recreation is used, a poor choice may be serious; but if it's included with other items, the crowd enjoys the rest of the program. And if the new item goes over it's worth adding to the group's repertoire.

Like anything else, recreation can be overdone. If members rush through a discussion without properly covering important points, so they can start the recreation, it's likely to harm the program as a whole. And if recreation is dragged out until everyone's tired of it and the hour is very late it's also likely to harm the group. However, these things may be avoided through proper organization of the program as a whole.

Walsh Says Farm Groups Can Cure Many Ills

"We have come a long way in Canada in the past few years and I know that a great deal that has been accomplished in the marketing of lambs, hogs, eggs, poultry, and beef, can be traced to the influence and direction offered by farm organizations," F. W. Walsh, N.S. Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Marketing, told a meeting of the District Farmers' Association at Shubenacadie.

"We have been successful in solving many of our difficulties regarding production," he continued, "and I am confident that a closer attention to the organization of farmers will assist materially in finding a solution to many of the economic ills which confront agriculture in this country."

Actually, as pointed out by Mr. Walsh, some districts in the province had solved many of their economic ills already and, in every instance, it could be shown that the local farm organizations had been an important influence in bringing about the improvement recorded. If



Discussing recreation at a rural short course.

All types of recreation have one thing in common — they need a good leader. Here and there forums have "natural" leaders, who have learned through experience. They know a lot of types of recreation, can pick others up quite readily, can select those suitable for the group and the occasion, and can teach new songs, games or dances.

But even where there is no such "natural" leader a group doesn't need to miss the stimulus of recreation. It can send one or two members to a course where they will learn something about leading recreation, along with the other skills required for live programs. And books and pamphlets giving information on this subject may be bought or borrowed from the Information Centre at Macdonald College.

this will work in individual districts, Mr. Walsh believed it was but a step further to bring about an economic recovery, not only nationally but internationally, as well.

As a case in point, Mr. Walsh commented upon the change that had been brought about in the United Kingdom, where agriculture was no longer regarded as the "Cinderella" industry. Instead, it has reached a level of economic importance that demanded that it be considered in a new light. Without the organization of United Kingdom farmers, such would not have been possible.

Prevent Water Pollution

Contrary to what most people think, having water tested is the second step in obtaining a safe water supply.

The first step is to make sure that contaminated surface water or near-surface seepage can't get into the well. This involves fixing up well platforms, well casings and other measures to prevent well contamination. If you don't fix up a well first so you know that contamination can't get in, water may test pure today but test impure tomorrow.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

The 1951 Farm Census

Beginning on June 1 this year a census enumerator will visit each of the 730,000 farms in Canada to obtain answers to a series of questions about the farm. The last census of agriculture for all Canada was taken in 1941 and for the Prairie Provinces in 1946. Many farmers will therefore have had previous experience in answering questions on the agricultural schedule, but for some it will be the first experience.

The schedule for 1951 has been shortened considerably. Most of the questions are straightforward, such as acres devoted to crops, numbers of live stock on farms, and inventories of equipment. Some questions will require estimates by the farmer, such as value of his farm, and value of the home garden. These questions are sometimes hard to answer but the information is of great value and is needed for adequate appraisal of the agricultural industry. Farmers will also be asked the numbers of animals sold off farms, production of crops in 1950, and certain major expense items. No attempt will be made to obtain a balance between expenses and receipts; in fact, many of the questions of this nature have been dropped from the 1951 schedule.

It must be emphasized that the census enumerator is duty bound to obtain a report about every farm in Canada, and each farmer is asked to co-operate by being prepared to give him as accurate a statement as possible. Enumerators are pledged to keep all information given them confidential, as are also all employees of the Bureau of Statistics. The law provides penalties for any violation of this pledge. Further, the Bureau of Statistics may not divulge the business of an individual to any government department nor to anyone outside the government. Every farmer may thus feel assured that the information he gives about his farm will not become known to any persons except those who handle the census schedules in the course of their official duties, and that it will only be used in statistical compilations where its identity entirely disappears.

The 1951 Census will provide information about the farm operator as well as the farm. The farmer will be asked his age, how long he has operated his present farm, and how many days in 1950 he worked on jobs off the farm. The sum of the answers to these questions will be useful in assessing the position of the agricultural industry.

In the early years of this century, when immigration

was heavy and the Prairie lands were being rapidly settled, the vast majority of settlers were young men and women. As the years passed, the average age of farm operators increased, in eastern as well as western Canada. During the Second World War the proportion of older people operating farms was particularly high. Since the war, more younger farmers have started operating farms on their own account. Questions, even at ten-year intervals, on the age of operators and number of years farmers have operated their land provided an indication of the number of young farmers starting in business and, generally, on the age distribution of farmers.

In 1941, about 22 per cent of the farm operators in Canada were 60 years or more old, whereas in 1921 the figure was a little under 17 per cent. Again, the proportion of operators under 35 years was 20 percent in 1941 as compared to 26 per cent in 1921. The same general trend will likely be shown for 1951, though the resettlement of war veterans may have increased somewhat the number of younger operators.

The question on time spent off the farm will aid in classifying farms into commercial and part-time farms. In many areas farmers supplement their income by fishing, lumbering, driving trucks and by engaging in many other businesses. For these, the farm provides a home and some basic income. On the average, these farmers do not generally produce much for sale. However, there were 40,000 of them in 1941 and they operated over five per cent of all occupied farm-land. Information on their present number and the extent of their operations is thus necessary for a complete statistical picture of Canadian agriculture.

Fairs for 1951

No less than 52 agricultural exhibitions are officially scheduled for the coming summer and fall, with Ormstown and Lachute on in June and the remainder later in the summer. Three are the provincial expositions — Ormstown, Quebec and Sherbrooke Winter Fair; regional fairs are those of Lachute, St. Hyacinthe, Rimouski, Three Rivers, Sherbrooke and Montmagny. The other 43 are local fairs, entries to which are limited to a single county.

The Department provides financial assistance to these fairs according to their size and type.

Turkey Broilers Coming Up

"We cannot supply the demand for poultry products in Canada" said Noe Henault at a Quebec Poultry Industry Committee meeting held in Quebec last month. We are, at the present time, barely meeting the home market demands for eggs; 90,000 dozen eggs are arriving at the grading stations a week, whereas last year receipts were about 120,000 dozen a week. As for stocks of poultry meat, they are estimated at 11 million pounds as against 17 million pounds the same time last year.

Although hatchery production has increased 31.5% it is not likely that enough new birds will be kept in the coming year to have any appreciable effect on the poultry market. Both in eggs and in poultry, it is expected that the price level will remain high enough to convince poultrymen not to reduce their flocks, in spite of prevailing high feed costs, even though prices offered for live birds are tempting. The same situation exists in the United States, according to Mr. Henault.

The sessions were presided over by Jacques de Broin and L. P. Dufour. Discussions on production, sanitation and selling techniques formed part of the programme, under the direction of Ubald Pilon of the Department of Agriculture. From these discussion periods it appeared that the Barred Plymouth Rock is still the most popular breed in Quebec on account of its adaptability in both egg and meat production, and the Quebec flocks are among the best, according to inspector Laurent Foisy.

Prof. W. A. Maw of Macdonald College, co-chairman of the committee, outlined the requirements for the ideal type of turkey, for use as broilers or fryers. This is the broad-breasted Bronze, 10 to 14 weeks old and weighing from 7 to 10 pounds live weight. He felt that there should be a good market for these, since they will be ready at a

time when the market is not crowded with capons or large fowls. Also, turkey raisers can thus dispose of their male birds at an early stage, and profitably. More information on this will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Mr. Henault, who has been appointed Quebec's representative to the World Poultry Congress in Paris next August, may be accompanied by a representative of the breeders, if the government agrees. This hope was expressed at the meeting.

Others who took part in the activities included Dr. Veilleux, speaking on sanitation, M. Lemay of Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, who dealt with proper management of litter, J. P. Desy on feeds and feeding, and Mr. Henault, who outlined new grading specifications.

New Strawberry Growing Centre

The creation of a strawberry growing centre has been announced by the Agricultural Planning Bureau of Champlain County, which is an organization which was recently organized in an effort to give positive direction to farming operations in that part of Quebec.

A group of young farmers, with the help of agronome J. U. Potvin, are planning to specialize in strawberries. They will all grow the same variety, and will follow the most up-to-date growing methods to produce a crop for sale to a processing plant in Montreal.

A group of Italian farm labourers arrived from overseas late in April, and another group is expected early in June. These are all single men, and if you are considering employing one or more of them, get in touch with the Farm Labour Bureau either in Montreal or Quebec, or with your local National Employment Office.

Sale of Breeding Stock Succeeds

The spring sale of beef cattle organized by the Quebec Beef Cattle Association racked up a big success at Sherbrooke on April 19th, and one feature of the sale was that all the Herefords and beef Shorthorns consigned (only these two breeds were represented) were bought by Quebec breeders.

The 51 head offered brought a total of \$23,075, for an average of \$457. Hereford bulls sold for an average of \$687.50, the highest price being paid for Blocky Domino, consigned by W. G. Bere of Arva, Ont., and sold to J. H. Ouellette of Longueuil for \$1,250. Hereford females brought an average of \$486.

Shorthorn bulls averaged \$386 and Shorthorn females \$344, top price for bulls being \$610 and for females \$510. As an inducement to buyers to keep their newly purchased bulls for at least two years, the Association offered bonuses of \$50 to seven buyers.

D. J. MacMillan was in charge of the sale which was under the general supervision of Col. D. B. Lyon. Auctioneers were W. S. O'Neill of Denfield, Ont., and Ray Demers of Sherbrooke. The sale committee included

J. P. MacIntosh, Ross Edwards, W. Nichol and D. B. Lyon. The sale was opened officially by the Hon. C. D. French, Minister of Mines, and Pierre Labrecque of the Quebec Department of Agriculture.

R. M. Elliott Passes

Quebec farmers, particularly those in the Eastern Townships, will find it strange not to see their old friend R. M. (Bunny) Elliott going about his business as agronome in Compton County. Bunny, as he was known to all and sundry, passed away on April 15th after a long siege of illness.

He was born at Danville, went to school there, and then went to Macdonald College in 1913, obtaining his B.S.A. degree in 1917. He enlisted on graduation, and served with the Royal Canadian Artillery. After being demobilized he joined the staff of the Federal Department of Agriculture in the Livestock Branch, and in 1932 was appointed by the Quebec Department of Agriculture as regional agronome for Hull. He was there until he transferred to Compton in 1937.

To his father, his widow, his son and his two sisters, we offer our sincere sympathy.

Go Easy with Liquid Fertilizers

The Quebec Fertilizer Board has a word of warning for those planning or thinking of using liquid commercial fertilizers.

Usually, these liquid fertilizers correspond to a 5-10-5 formula, and contain about 2½ pounds of soluble fertilizer elements per gallon of solution. At a price of \$3.60 per gallon (in 5 gallon lots or more), this brings the price of the fertilizer to something like thirteen times as much as it would cost if bought in the regular form.

It has been claimed that grain seed should be treated with these liquid fertilizers, the suggested rate being one gallon of fertilizer for each 10 bushels of grain. The Federal Department of Agriculture checked up on this claim recently, and after trials made with seed wheat in thirty-three different localities in the West, reported that "the use of liquid fertilizer for this purpose is of doubtful value, and may even result in a slight reduction in yield."

Liquid fertilizers have their place in some operations; in horticulture, at transplanting time, starter solutions help to overcome the shock to young seedlings. After a period of drought which has slowed growth, the stimulation offered by liquid fertilizers is beneficial. But the same effect can be obtained by using dry fertilizers sold for this purpose, which have only to be dissolved in water to be ready for use — and the cost is far less.

There is no evidence to prove, at the present time, that at the present level of prices, commercial liquid fertilizers can entirely replace ordinary chemical fertilizer, either for field crops or for horticultural plantings on a commercial scale.

Agricultural Merit Regions for 1951

The Agricultural Merit Competition is starting on its sixty-second session this summer, and farmers who will be eligible to compete are those living in the counties of Bagot, Brome, Chambly, Compton, Drummond, Iberville, Missisquoi, Richelieu, Richmond, Rouville, Shefford, Sherbrooke, St. Hyacinthe, St. John, Vercheres and Yamaska.

All farmers living in this area who can fulfill the entry conditions are urged to compete this year. The conditions are simple: the farmer must have worked at least a 60-acre farm for at least five consecutive years, either as owner, manager or renter. The fact that a farmer has already won an award in some previous competition does not deprive him of the opportunity to compete again; improvements which he has made in the intervening years will make him eligible for a higher award. Anyone who has been in one of the Department's farm contests is also eligible to enter the Merit Agricole competition.

The competition was held in this district five years ago, during the summer of 1946. That year 78 entries were received, 10 competing for the title of Commander (gold medallist), 38 trying for a silver medal and 28 hoping

to earn a bronze medal. Mr. Philibert Audet of Compton was the gold medallist that year, in the professional farmer's class, and Mr. J. A. Eccles of Sweetsburg won in the "hobby-farmer" class.

Technicians Check with American Methods

Members of the staff of the Animal Husbandry Service at Quebec, and particularly those directly concerned with the artificial insemination centre at St. Hyacinthe, feel well satisfied with the way the centre is run. Several executives, headed by Pierre Labrecque, recently spent some days visiting similar establishments in the New England States, and returned with the word that our methods of operations compare very favourably with those to the south of us.

Certain laboratory techniques in use in the States interested our experts, and it is likely that some of them will be tried out at the St. Hyacinthe centre. But for the most part, it was found that our way of doing things was perhaps just a little better than theirs, and it is interesting to note that the bulls at the centre are of rather better quality than those seen on the trip. All centres visited, which included some in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, operate as co-operatives; are paying their way and paying dividends.

While on the trip, Mr. Labrecque was a guest speaker at the annual meeting of the New Jersey Ayrshire Breeders' Association.

Bee Troubles are Being Licked

American fourbrood is on the way out in Quebec, and the drastic methods adopted by the Department of Agriculture to control this disease have borne fruit.

In 1940, the disease was found in 225 apiaries in Quebec, and 3,443 colonies of bees were destroyed by government inspectors. Since beekeepers are compensated for all colonies which are condemned, the cost to the province that year was over \$7,500.

Ten years later, 1949-50, the disease was found in only 67 apiaries and only 485 hives were destroyed at a cost in indemnities of \$1,359. Thus, in only ten years, this disease has been almost completely eradicated, but the cost to the provincial treasury to do this has been in the vicinity of \$50,000.

The Department's mobile equipment, with which disinfection can be carried out at the farm, can be credited with much of the success in the clean-up campaign. Today, treatment with sulphathiazol keeps infection from starting, and the material may be obtained free from the Department.

The fact that this disease seems to be under control, however, is no excuse for any relaxation of vigilance, and all possible care must be taken to see that infection does not get a start in any hive.

Plant Protection Society Meets

The annual meeting of the Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants was held April 25th and 26th at Macdonald College, and entomologists and plant pathologists took advantage of the opportunity to renew old acquaintances and compare notes on progress in their respective domains since the last such meeting was held last summer.

The delegates arrived in the evening of the 25th and after being welcomed by Dean Brittain, settled back to hear Dr. Hubert Martin discuss some neglected chemical problems of plant pathology. Dr. Martin is the newly appointed Director of the Science Service Laboratory which is being organized at London, Ont. Dr. Martin came to Canada to assume this post from the Long Ashton Research Station in England. Following the talk the guests spent a social evening at the chalet in Morgan's Woods.

The meetings on the 26th were devoted to reading of papers on a wide variety of problems of plant protection. There were many of these, all technical in nature, but limited by the programme committee to a maximum of fifteen minutes each. Papers were read in either French or English, depending on who had written each.

All members of the executive were re-elected for another term: J. B. Maltais, president; F. O. Morrison, vice-president; R. Cayouette, secretary; J. A. Doyle, associate secretary. Directors elected are T. Simard, L. Cinq-Mars, I. L. Connors, W. Keenan, A. Wilkes, George Gauthier and L. Daviault.

To Save on Feed Bills Cut Your Hay Early

For high quality hay it is necessary to cut early. Grasses should be cut when in the flowering stage and clovers and alfalfa when about one-tenth in bloom. In the young stages of growth the plant contains a high protein content and little fibre. As the season advances, the fibre content increases whereas the protein decreases rapidly. Phosphorous also drops when the plant reaches a more mature stage. Early cutting also has the advantage in saving many of the lower leaves which dry up if cutting is delayed.

Speed in curing is important in improving hay quality. Prolonged exposure to sun and rain when the hay is curing results in a loss of vitamins and minerals.

Good Potatoes from Good Seed

One government subsidy which is really paying off is that given to encourage the use of good potato seed stock in this province. The Quebec Department of Agriculture has been trying for a number of years to get all farmers to use Foundation and Foundation A seed potatoes from

Quebec producers, and offers, again this year, a subsidy of \$300 for each carload lot of 600 bags, or 50 cents per bag for farmers who make group purchases through the Co-operative Federee.

This subsidy is designed for two reasons. One is to help provide a market for Quebec seed potato producers who are growing really good stock; the second is to improve the general quality of the Quebec potato crop, which has a value of some twenty million dollars. Mr. J. H. Lavoie, Chief of the Horticulture Service, thinks that this subsidy is directly responsible for the great reduction that has been noticed in recent years in the amount of bacterial blight in our crops.

Getting Stands of Brome

How to get good stands of brome grass has been investigated at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, N.J. Field studies have been made on depth of planting, and on the comparative effectiveness of lime, fertilizer and oats as carriers for brome grass seed.

These studies showed that the seed may be planted somewhat deeper in light than in heavy soils. Loss of emergence occurs at planting depths greater than 1 1/4 inch in very light soils, whereas in some heavy soils the loss may begin at 3/4 inch. But another factor besides loss of emergence is involved. The deeper the planting, the longer the seedlings take to emerge, and the longer it takes to establish the stand.

Brome grass seed placed on the surface of the soil or at a depth of 3/4 inch gave better stands than that sown at a depth of 1 3/4 inches—in fact, the number of plants per square foot was two to three times as high.

Fertilizer was as effective as oats as a carrier for brome grass seed. Seedlings for the fertilizer-brome mixture were sturdier, tillered more, and grew more vigorously than those from the oat-brome mixture. Lime gave results equal to or better than fertilizer when used as a seed carrier.

What Does Lime Do to Land?

The success of many farmers in Eastern Canada depends to quite a great extent on how well they understand the lime needs of their soils. Although at first sight this matter may seem quite simple, there are a lot of possible complications. As a result, five of the well-known experiment stations in the U.S. got together to put out a joint bulletin on the subject.

The five stations are Maryland, New Jersey, Cornell, Ohio and Pennsylvania, and the bulletin they produced is "100 Questions and Answers on Liming Land," which is available from the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers, N.J., at 10 cents a copy.

Although based on U.S. conditions, much of the information in this bulletin is basic information that is just as applicable anywhere else, and most of it applies directly to Eastern Canada.

Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

It may have been an easy winter to keep the roads open but it sure was a hard spring to do the same. The bulldozer didn't come through to dig us out of the snow but one almost needed one to get to town through the mud. I don't think we ever did so little early spring travelling. We were fortunate in getting a trip to each of two local towns over before the roads got bad and then we just stayed put. Those who couldn't do so certainly reported some bad going (though some used more colourful language in describing it.)

The sugar season was quite freakish as we made over two-thirds of what

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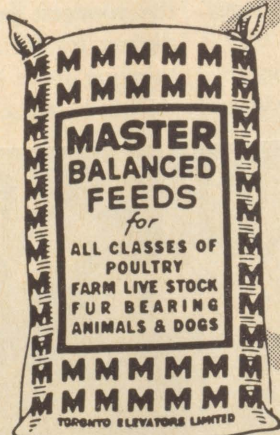
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we made in March. Even then we missed some of the first which was also the best quality, another unusual circumstance. Most of what we got came in two savage bursts which kept people on the jump. The last of March it seemed as if it might be a big year. But we could almost have made more in February than we did in April. There wasn't enough variation in temperature the latter month. We did get a slight freeze early in the month after quite a bit of warm weather and it started an amazing flow of sap for a short time. Then it was the same old thing day after day. Last night we got a freeze that would have meant sap a week earlier. I would not dare to say that it didn't bring some even now but a lot of buckets didn't catch it if it did. It was a great year to interest one in bucket covers. We did not carry out our intention of having them all covered but we did get a little nearer. Perhaps we are not through yet as we haven't seen the Morning Beauty or Mourning Cloak butterfly yet. One old-timer was telling me that he could remember seeing more sugar made in May than was made in March. I don't expect that but we have had weather in May that would have increased the maple crop if it had come in April.

In spite of the bad roads one visitor

(continued on inside back cover)

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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

Farm Folk of Tomorrow

by Bertha S. Lang

What is your opinion of Boys' and Girls' Club Work and School Fairs? Have you had a successful one in your district? If not, why?

These are two questions each adult, whether parent or interested bystander, cannot afford to pass by lightly. We know the farmers and farmers' wives of tomorrow are the boys and girls of today and we want those boys and girls to stay on the farms and enjoy life there. If this is to be accomplished it means they must enjoy their occupation and that also means they must know it well enough to make a success of it financially.

What could be a better training ground for this than Boys' and Girls' Club work? The general objective is to develop rural young people and to train them to take a constructive part in community life and activity by (a) providing a practical training in agriculture and home economics, (b) encouraging the adoption of improved practices on the farm and in the farm home. "Learning to do by doing", is the basic principle. Participation in the activities of a properly organized club, undertaking a well balanced programme, under good leadership, affords an excellent training for citizenship. Planning and working with others in the group programmes of work, recreation, and social activity, gaining a knowledge of proper procedure for the conduct of a meeting, taking part in discussions, public speaking or debating, serving as an officer or on committees, are all experiences which develop a spirit of co-operation and self-reliance, and prepare the members collectively and individually for effective service to the community.

By belonging to a club (whose projects are varied: calf, poultry, swine, garden, clothing, etc.) one can get knowledge by practice.

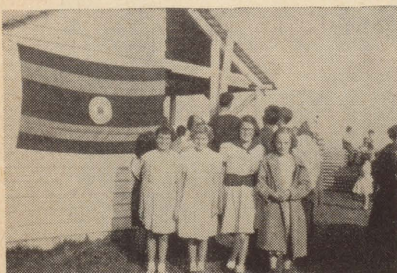
But what of the many competitions that bring no monetary reward and often pain from disappointment

after hours of honest effort? The competitors are taught why one exhibit is better than the other and next time they know by former experience. They also learn that money is not all the reward. The knowledge and experiences they get in Club work stays with them for the rest of their lives.

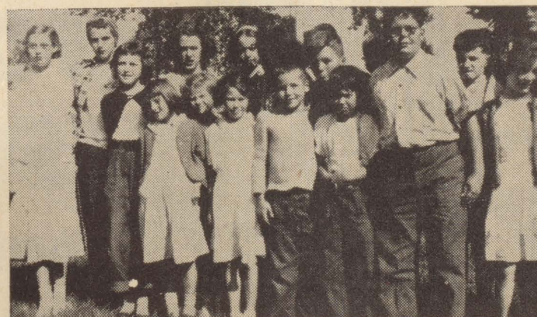
I would appeal to the parents, or guardians, to take an interest in this work. If a Calf Club (1) try to get a good calf for your child, not the runt of the herd, (2) when Achievement Day, or the Annual Show, comes along go with your child, encourage him, don't have the threshing gang in or something else to do that day. Show Day is THE DAY for him; it is only one day in the year and that day may make more difference in your boy's attitude toward farming than you think. Parents can benefit also, from the explanations given by the judge as to placings.

Any district wishing to form a Club has only to contact the agronomer in this county and with him make plans to hold a meeting of all interested parties. A handbook for leaders has been prepared which contains information and ideas collected from various sources and arranged in condensed form which is a great help and may be obtained by writing to: Canadian Council of Boys' and Girls' Club Work, 79 Confederation Building, Ottawa. While there has been much accomplished there are great opportunities for expansion in junior activity in Canada. The reward of the successful leader is the satisfaction of giving constructive service to rural youth in preparation for effective citizenship.

School Fairs can also be a splendid training for even the youngest pupil. If you have no School Fair in your district try for one next year, it is not too soon to begin thinking about it. The Department of Agriculture donates the seeds; these can be obtained from the Q.W.I. office



Youthful contestants in front of the vegetable building.



Beebe Intermediate School children who won prizes at the School Fair.



Prize awards are being read.



Mrs. A. E.
Abercrombie,
Lennoxville W.I.,
winner of the
Provincial Tweedsmuir
competition in the
essay section.

at Macdonald College but applications must be made early. If you can sponsor a Garden Competition along with this project, so much the better. Your agronomer and the Q.W.I. demonstrator are always willing to help judge the exhibits and again, as in other club work, comment is given on the classes, which usually also include simple sewing and cooking, in addition to the harvest of the garden.

I ask the parents to encourage the children, give them your moral support and advice, and make this Fair Day, "something to write home about." We need confidence in youth. They are the backbone of the country and we should do all we can to help them.

Convention June 26-28

The 37th Annual Convention of the Quebec Women's Institutes will be held at Macdonald College, June 26-28. The annual meeting of the Provincial Board will convene at 10.00 a.m. Monday, June 25. This will take the form of a joint session with the board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, which is holding their 17th Biennial Conference the preceding week at the same place.

The F.W.I.C. will be guests of the Q.W.I. at a banquet Monday evening, and all branch delegates, attending the convention, will be welcome.

Full particulars will be mailed to all branches shortly.

School Fairs

Last year branches sponsoring a school fair project, (see Mrs. Lang's article), were asked to get pictures for an "achievement record". Approximately 20 such fairs were organized, some by the Women's Institute, county or branch, and others in co-operation with other agencies. We are sorry so few pictures were received and hope next year will see a more generous response.

This is only the second year for Bonaventure County W.I. and already an improvement has been noted in the standard of the exhibits shown. Seven schools were represented and 91 gardens were made from the seeds furnished by the Department of Agriculture, Quebec. Sections for this produce, cooking, handicrafts, and school work, were planned, and sports rounded out the day. The county convener of Publicity, Mrs. Oliver Watt, pays tribute to the interest shown by everyone in the district and adds, "thanks to the generosity of the Municipal Councils, the School Boards, the Women's Institutes, business firms, Agriculture Society and individuals, approximately \$100 in cash and 35 lbs. of candy went to the children. Already they are looking forward to a bigger, better Fair this fall."

The publicity convener for Missisquoi, Mrs. James Moore, tells of another such fair, sponsored by the branch at Stanbridge East. "I feel", she writes, "that it was very successful, with a lesson in good Citizenship as well as Agriculture and Manual Training, as the French children joined in with the English to complete harmonious grouping that worked out very successfully."

The picture of the large group of prize winners from the Beebe school was sent in by the publicity convener for Stanstead County, W.I., Mrs. H. F. Taylor. This fair is a county event and is held at Ayer's Cliff. The branches assist the district agronomes by distributing the seeds, helping with the arrangement of the prize list, supervising the sports, etc.

Judging by the demand for seeds received at the Q.W.I. office this spring, there will be many school fairs again, with one or two newcomers added to the list. *Please remember your pictures!*

"Come to the Fair."



"Something to Eat?"



Bringing in the entries to the vegetable building.



Q.W.I. Entries in the Tweedsmuir Competition

Five hooked rugs were entered in that section of the Provincial Tweedsmuir Competition, the largest number of entries ever made in this province. These were judged by Mme P. C. LeBeau and the staff of l'Ecole des Arts. Domestique, Quebec, and the two top entries selected are to be sent on for the national competition. Mrs. A. W. Perkins, Huntingdon W.I., won first honours with the splendid score of 98.5. In second place was Mrs. James W. MacKenzie, Shigawake W.I., with a score of 95.8.

In the essay section there were four entries, again the largest number of entries in this province. The subject, "Democracy begins with YOU", had been selected by Mrs. R. Sayre, president Associated Country Women of the World, and the judges were Mr. T. Pickup, Secretary, Eastern Townships Committee for Adult Education, and Prof. Langford of Bishop's University. Here the winning entries were those of Mrs. A. E. Abercrombie, Lennoxville W.I. in first place, and Mrs. A. Graham, Frontier W.I., second.

No village histories were entered in this competition. Several had been started but could not be completed in time to meet the deadline.

The Month with the W.I.

The news this month covers the end of the Q.W.I. year and busy annual meetings were the order of the day. However, many other items were considered beside the routine of annual reports and election of officers, as you will realize as you follow the Institute through this month of March.

Argenteuil: At Brownsburg two new members were enrolled, \$60 was donated to the local skating rink, five chairs to the Legion Memorial Hall, and a food parcel was sent to England. Frontier presented a life membership to Mrs. A. Murdoch and sent cheer to members who were ill. Lachute had a sketch of the organization of their branch in 1932. Mille Isle sent an overseas parcel and Morin Heights planned a military whist. Two new members were welcomed. Pioneer had the installation ceremony at their meeting and a life membership was given.

Bonaventure: A new branch has been formed in this county, at Grand Cascapedia. We welcome them to the Q.W.I. and trust we shall be hearing of their activities before long. Black Cape enrolled a new member. A party netted \$21.95 and cheer was sent to a shut-in. At Marci, Mrs. Herbert Bisson prepared the feature article for the radio broadcast. \$15 was voted the Q.W.I. Service Fund, \$5 to the Junior Red Cross of Port Daniel School West No. 1, and \$2 to the Canadian Red Cross. Port Daniel has added two committees; sunshine and entertainment. In the limerick contest the first prize was awarded to Mrs. Lorne Journeaux, second to Mrs. N. L. Dow. Shigawake reports that all overseas parcels have been



Mrs. A. W. Perkins with the winning rug.

acknowledged.

Brome: At Sutton 10,000 blood donors' pads have been made, \$30 raised from food sales, and \$5 voted to the Canadian Red Cross. A member gave a talk on her recent trip to Memphis, showing views and specimens of cotton and the characteristic red earth.

Chat.-Huntingdon: Dundee reports buying 24 chairs for the Community Hall. Franklin Centre held a card party and food sale. Hemmingford donated \$20 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund, \$5 to the Red Cross and \$5 to Save the Children. Howick voted \$6 to the Public Speaking Contest in their High School. Executives of Aubrey-Riverfield and Howick branches were guests of this meeting. Huntingdon gave \$25 to Huntingdon County Hospital. Ormstown reports only the routine of their annual meeting.

Compton: Bury presented their retiring president and secretary with gifts and enrolled two new members. \$10 was given to the War Memorial Fund and \$50 to the Cemetery Fund. Bury Juniors held their annual meeting, all reports showing much activity and progress. Plans for a tea, to swell the funds, were made. Canterbury packed a parcel for overseas. Scotstown heard an address on "Education in Quebec Schools", by Mr. Roberts. A W.I. in England sent a gift of handkerchiefs for each branch member. Three new members were welcomed.

Gaspé: L'Anse Aux Cousins planned an active programme for the coming year. Sandy Beach entertained the county president, who gave the report of the provincial semi-annual meeting. \$10 was donated to the Red Cross and \$10 to the March of Dimes. Wakeham also

was visited by the county president and heard the report of the semi-annual. At York the librarian reported that they now have 93 books in their library. Many donations of food for overseas parcels were received.

Gatineau: Aylmer East voted \$15 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. This branch will serve refreshments at the opening of the new school at South Hull and will present an encyclopedia to the school. Breckenridge fined any member not wearing "a touch of green", at their meeting. There was a display of work for the Junior Red Cross and for the spring sale. Flowers were sent to invalids and greeting cards to two members who are past 90 years of age. \$5 was voted to Crippled Children's Fund. Rupert held their 25th anniversary meeting in the house in which the branch was organized. Silver pins, to mark the occasion, were presented to four charter members who are still active in W.I. work. Greetings were received from neighbouring branches and from the county president. A supper marking the event was held in the hall, decorated in W.I. colours, with the table centered with a three-tier birthday cake. Wakefield reported that hot lunches were served to 75 school children during the winter months, also that more people were seeking membership in the Gatineau Co-operative Medical Services. \$10 was donated the Red Cross and \$5 to Save the Children. Letters of appreciation were sent to the press at Ottawa for their generous allotment of space for coverage of W.I. news.

Missisquoi: At Cowansville the president gave a review of the year's work, stressing the School Fair, at which over \$100 in prizes were given. Dunham voted \$5 for school and sent gifts to the shut-ins. The winning attendance team were entertained by the losing team at this meeting. Fordyce made donations to the Red Cross, Cancer Fund and local Easter Seal Campaign. The retiring president and secretary were presented with gifts. An essay was entered in the Tweedsmuir contest.

Pontiac: Bristol Busy Bees gave \$10 to the Boy Scouts and sent a box of food and clothing to a needy family. Mrs. E. Laird was the lucky winner of a quilt drawn for at this meeting. Clarendon sent clothing and knitted articles to the Orange and Protestant Home, also cotton to the Cancer Fund. A food sale netted \$29.40. Elmside heard papers on "Travelling with a Small Child", and "Take Time out for Play." A box was sent to a convalescent child. Fort Coulonge gave prizes to two boys, winners in skating races, and new members were enrolled.

Richmond: Cleveland packed an overseas box and planned prizes for the county fair. Dennison's Mills sent a donation to the Red Cross and a box of cheer to an elderly member on her birthday. Gore sent a magazine to a member, flowers to a sick friend and voted \$5 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. Melbourne Ridge had an auction of articles from the sale table and planned a candy contest. Richmond Hill presented a life membership, and Shipton held a social evening and card party.



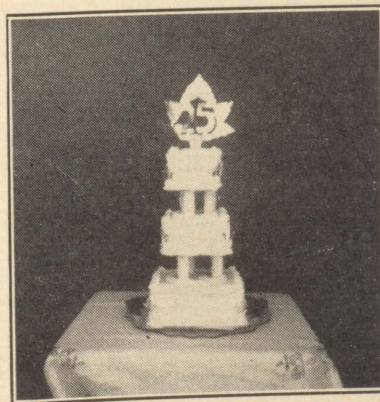
Rupert W.I.'s annual picnic 1950 at Bernard Lake, Gatineau County, the summer home of Mrs. C. E. Moore.

Shefford: Granby Hill reports receiving material for six quilts to be tied for the Red Cross. Their all-day meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Donald Neil. South Roxton discussed "How to improve our meeting". Warden brought in used greeting cards to be sent to a Children's Hospital. \$10 was donated the Q.W.I. Service Fund, \$5 to the Red Cross and \$5 to the Institute of the Blind.

Sherbrooke: At Ascot moving pictures of local places and other parts of Canada, taken while on a trip, were shown by Mr. W. A. Bown. A dance was sponsored. Bevidere remembered the shut-ins with flowers and cards, and gave \$5 to the Institute for the Blind. Brompton Road donated \$2 to Save the Children, \$2 to the Institute for the Blind, sent a \$10 box overseas, a box to a veteran, and gave \$4 toward school lunches. Cherry River heard a reading, "Boarding School Teachers". A sale of pot holders was held. Lennoxville voted \$10 to Cancer Fund, \$5 to Save the Children and \$5 to the Institute for the Blind. Their secretary, Mrs. H. L. Wallace, gave an account of their recent short course on the broadcast over the local station. Milby voted \$100 to the New Sherbrooke Hospital. At Orford Mrs. E. Ross read an amusing article, "I Must go Shopping", and Mrs. E. Copland read an article on "The Peace Garden". \$5 was donated to the McKinnon Memorial.

Stanstead: Ayer's Cliff had a baked bean supper for the Teachers' Association and plans were made for a paper drive. A parcel of food was sent overseas. Beebe

(continued on inside back cover)



Rupert W.I.'s twenty-fifth anniversary birthday cake.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Class of '51 Goes Off to Work

This issue of the Journal will be in the mails just about the time that the third largest class in Agriculture, and the fourth largest class in Household Science in our history, pass before the Principal to have him confer their Bachelor of Science degrees.

With the departure of the class of 1951, most of the veterans who took advantage of the Department of Veterans' Affairs study grants will have completed their undergraduate work. There will be a few veterans in the fourth year next session, and a very few in the second and third years, but the days when veterans accounted for as much as 40% of our registration are over.

Their coming made some profound changes at Macdonald College. For one thing there was the problem of finding space for them. With so many more students at the College than usual, we had not enough classroom space or living quarters. The classroom problem was met by dividing the students into manageable groups and repeating the work for each group. For the many veterans who were married we built apartments on the women's campus, and ever since they were first occupied in the fall of 1945 they have been filled to capacity. At the same time we built extra accommodation of the same type for use by single students, and these, too, have been in constant use. These apartments have survived all the comings and goings surprisingly well, for they were never intended to be permanent fixtures; but they are likely to be needed for some time yet.

Another but less evident change has been the effect of these older and more mature students on their younger classmates; the influence of married men with children studying side by side with boys just out of school. These veterans, older and more experienced, came to college realizing the importance of making the most of their time, and brought a very evident seriousness of purpose to their academic work. The lighter-hearted members of the class could not fail to absorb some of this spirit, and the results of this steadying influence have been marked. Nevertheless, we find the veterans well at the top in most examination lists, and, as a group, they have left an enviable record behind them.

And now, as we bid good-bye to the class of '51, we start preparations to receive the freshmen who will be in

the class of '55. They will be a good bunch of boys and girls, we know, but just at the moment we wonder how they can hope to compare with the ones, just leaving, whom we have known during the past four years. For the class of '51 had a spirit and verve all its own, and its members will not soon pass from our memories.

Mac Grad Gets Fellowship



Mr. W. W. McCutcheon, B.Sc. (Agr.) '42, has been awarded one of two Imperial Relations Trust Fellowships which are available to Canadians for 1951-52, and will go to England some time during September next to begin his studies at the University of London Institute of Education.

These Fellowships have been established to enable experienced teachers and educationists from the Commonwealth to spend a period of study in circumstances which allow the freest interchange of educational thought. In 1951-52 eight Fellowships will be awarded: two each for Canada, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. They are tenable at the University of London for one year, and carry a value of £500, provide free tuition, and include a further grant of up to £50 toward travelling expenses. During his stay in England, the holder is expected to devote all his time to educational studies of an advanced character, which are relevant to the educational problems of his own country.

After graduating from Macdonald, Mr. McCutcheon enrolled at Sir George Williams College in Montreal where he received his B.Sc. and B.A. degrees. Then he went on to Acadia and received a Bachelor of Education degree in 1946. Two years later he obtained a Master's degree in agricultural economics from the University of Toronto. During the summers he attended summer school at Cornell, and last September he registered at Cornell as a resident student on a scholarship.

Mr. McCutcheon will return to Canada on the completion of his studies in England, since acceptance of a Fellowship implies an obligation on the part of the Fellow to return to educational service in his own country within a reasonable period after the conclusion of his studies.

the first heifer we had seen for some time we were anxious to save it. By the time the disease was checked it was so weak we couldn't get it to drink and seemed to have a chill. We put a blanket on it and used a heat lamp for some time. We also borrowed a lamb feeding nipple from a neighbour who also suggested raw eggs for extra nourishment. Both the nipple and the egg appealed to the calf, but it is too early yet to foretell the final result.

Another visitor also got to us over the bad roads in the form of the R.O.P. inspector. It was just at the peak of our trouble so he did not get out of the car at all as such a test would do no good. Indeed it might have done a lot of harm since if he had been around the stable a lot he might have carried the trouble on to other herds. It was the first test we have missed since we started in '46.

At last we managed to get some hogs to market just ahead of a drop. We didn't hit the top but, we sent some at \$34 which averaged \$57 each. We wanted to send the rest at \$33.50 but had to wait a week for the roads which cost us 50 cents a hundred and we got cut on three for too much weight. They still averaged \$55, but of course we had more feed in them accordingly. It seems out of line with everything else for pork to be dropping so much. If ours had been a week later we would have lost \$30 on the nine.

It also seems out of line for butter to be dropping quite so fast. Of course it went up too fast for a while but it didn't need to tumble quite so far. People will rush to buy the things they don't even need when prices are going up but they won't even buy what they need if they are going down.

Our clover silage is so hard in the bottom this year that we almost need dynamite to get it out. It looks as if we didn't start feeding twice a day quite quick enough though there is not much growth started in the grass yet. The fall rye is coming some and the ladino clover seems to have stood the winter. The red clover also looks better than last spring though late hard frosts could change the picture a lot yet.

The Secret of Success

Do you remember the fable about the frog that died of starvation while waiting for Providence to send a fly? It carries a great deal of wisdom when applied to human affairs. Learning to do the things that need doing, instead of waiting for someone else to do them for us — that seems to be the secret of success in most aspects of life.

It certainly has been the secret for many farmers and fishermen on Prince Edward Island. When the depression checked off their usual means of livelihood they found they were able to do better by other means. As a result, the island province has built up a strong network of co-operatives.

The inside story of how these co-operatives were conceived, born and developed is told in a new book "Cradled in the Waves," by Dr. John Tougas Croteau (The Ryerson Press, Toronto \$3.75.) As Dr. Croteau was associated with this work for 13 years he is able to give an intimate picture of the people and forces that affected

the movement. Of his book Dr. E. A. Corbett, Director of the Canadian Association for Adult Education, says:

It is an exciting story, told with skill and good humor by a young man who . . . believed passionately that "little people" can solve most of their social and economic problems through learning how to think and plan and work together."

It does that, and more; it tells *how* they have been able to get results, through methods that could be followed by many other groups with similar success.

House Is Danger Spot For Farm Accidents

Little children often run to the house for safety when something scares them. But the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, has figures to show that instead of being the safest spot on the farm, the house is the number one place for farm accidents.

The kitchen ranks as the most dangerous area in the home according to number of accidents. Living room and bathroom tie for second.

Farmers often neglect treatment of minor wounds unless first-aid kits are conveniently placed around these areas where accidents most often happen, says Norval Wardle, Iowa State College farm safety specialist.

Naturally, Wardle names the kitchen as one of the most important spots on the farm for a first-aid kit. The first-aid kit should be in plain sight so even a stranger in the house would have no trouble finding it.

The shop area is another location that needs a first-aid kit. Otherwise, injuries there will be neglected. If the wound or bruise is treated at a later time, Wardle calls it "late aid," instead of first aid.

Have a first-aid kit on the tractor. Fasten it by itself where it is easy to read. Use metal boxes for the first-aid kits in the shop and on the tractor, he urges. This will drop dust out.

The Month with the W.I.

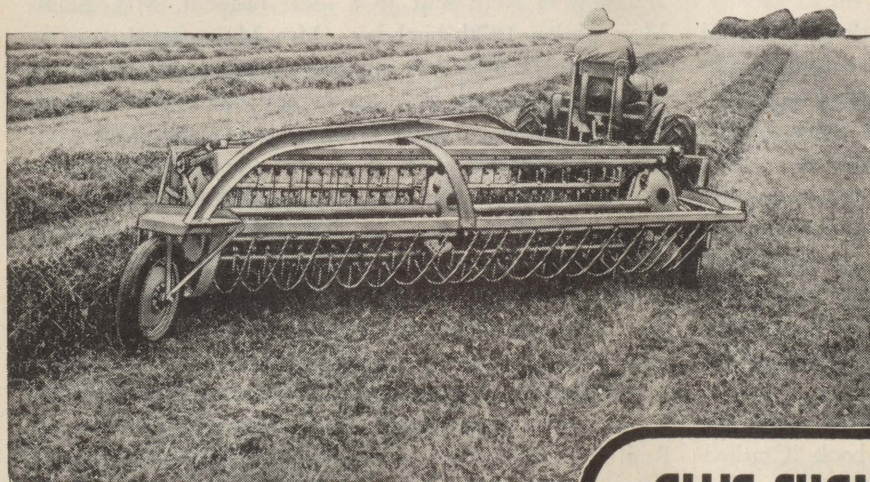
(continued from page 27)

collected Christmas cards and sent them to Miss Beulah Rediker, a local girl who is a missionary in Japan. Used stamps are also being saved to be sold and the proceeds used for missionary work. A Chinese auction was held and flowers were sent to a local resident, Mrs. Emma Moir, on her 107th birthday. (Mrs. Moir passed away on April 9th. Ed.) It was suggested that all convenors give a three minute talk, relating to their department, at each meeting. Hatley members are ordering more Q.W.I. cook books. A donation of \$2 was voted the Red Cross and a gift was sent to a new baby. Stanstead North reports only the routine of a busy annual meeting. Tomifobia is planning to buy a table-loom and Ways' Mills sends a weekly box of food to a home where the mother is ill. A discussion was held on cutting down on refreshments served at meetings.

Vaudreuil: At Cavagnal the meeting was preceded by a well-attended luncheon. \$10 was donated to the Red Cross. Miss Reid of the Hudson High School gave a talk on "Education." Vaudreuil-Dorion at their meeting voted two bursaries of \$50 each to Macdonald High School and the Dorion School, to help needy students pursue advanced studies.



Safe Deposit for Leaves



Perhaps no farm machine in history was watched more closely than the **ROTO-BALER**, introduced by Allis-Chalmers for home ownership on family farms.

Here was a new kind of baling, a new idea in hay storage that held the interest of both farmers and agricultural research workers. Would rolled bales provide the answer to many long-standing hay problems?

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